

AMHERST/LA PAZ CENTRO SISTER CITY COMMITTEE

Minutes

January 25, 2012

PRESENT: Paul Baker, Liz Etheridge, Victoria Febonio, Chuck Milch, Kathy Mullin, Mary Santiago, Anne and Ed Stanek, Lydia Vernon-Jones, Carol Wood.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Kathy presented an excellent summary of the receipts that Julio had sent us, which covered the whole of 2011, comparing the amounts with what we had sent him. The summary of what she submitted is below:

Invoice total from Julio:	\$5415.16
Expenses not included in invoices:	<u>\$1119</u>
TOTAL:	\$6, 534.16
Amount that we sent:	\$6, 673.60
Difference between what we sent and Julio's report of expenses:	\$139.44

We felt that this was pretty impressive accounting on Julio's part and are requesting that **Mary** ask him to send us quarterly receipts from now on, just through regular mail.

Julio also submitted a budget request for 2012. It contained scholarship student expenses plus

Study Skills Tutoring	\$230
Fence Repair	\$130
Community Development	\$115
Clean Barrio Project	\$250
Organic Compost Project	\$210
Sports Project	\$400

We decided to fund the first half of Study Skills tutoring the first quarter of water and light bills, as well as the amount owed the electric company in back payments, and the fence repair. **Mary** will find out details about the other projects that Julio proposed.

Kathy is also sending Julio \$3148 to cover the scholarship student expenses for the first half of the year.

We are really anxious to get the textbooks and calculators that the students had requested. **Mary** will ask Julio to find out what textbooks and calculators are needed and what the best way is to buy them. We intend to donate them to the La Paz Centro Library where the students will have access to them during after school hours.

SUMMER DELEGATION

Mary and Liz have agreed to go to La Paz Centro this summer as representatives of our committee. We have already begun a list of items we would like them to pursue:

1. Speaking with other potential committee members to see what interest there might be, particularly if there is a stipend involved.
2. Visit the library again to get a list of their needs.
3. Research the possibility of Melvin or some other carpenter making tables for the library.
4. Getting cost estimates for projects such as tables in the library, etc.
5. Get clarification on electric bills
6. Ascertain whether computers are used – did the fact that they were cleaned mean that they are being used again?
7. Check on the banking situation – perhaps speak with a lawyer.

OTHER

Olivia Feyre-Febonio is interested in joining the committee. We were unanimously enthusiastic about the idea. Another idea was to see if the teens might be interested in targeted fundraisers at school to raise funds for the library makeover.

Liz announced that the Burrito Dinner fundraiser for the next delegation is on Friday, March 30th at 6 pm at the First Congregational Church in Amherst.

Our NEXT MEETING will be on MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH AT 7:30 PM IN THE LOWER INTERNAL MEETING ROOM OF THE BANGS CENTER.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Stanek

Chair